

Aiming to restore watershed function in the forest around Hlawga Lake
5th Yangon, Myanmar Tree Planting July 8
Planting a total of 13,000 trees together with 1,200 volunteers

AEON Environmental Foundation (Takuya Okada, Chairman of the Foundation and Honorary Chairman and Advisor of AEON Co., Ltd.) will conduct the fifth Yangon, Myanmar Tree Planting in the Hlawga Lake area located in the outskirts of Yangon on Saturday, July 8, in the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (hereinafter, "Myanmar").

The Foundation began planting trees in 2013 for three years in the woods around Pyugyi Reservoir, located in the outskirts of Yangon. Last year in 2016, the fourth year of the project, it shifted the target area of tree planting to the Hlawga Lake area under a new three-year plan.

Hlawga Lake is a source of domestic water for the residents of Yangon and the surrounding areas. The Foundation will conduct this project to restore the watershed conservation function* of the woods by further enriching the environment of the woods so that residents can continue their sustainable use of the lake in the future. This activity will involve 1,200 volunteers from both Myanmar and Japan, who will plant 13,000 saplings native to the region. This will bring the total number of trees planted until now to 47,000.

AEON Environmental Foundation will actively endeavor to implement environmental conservation efforts including tree planting with a view to passing on a vibrant, beautiful natural environment to the children of the future.

*Watershed conservation function: The soil in the forest stores rainwater, helping to regulate water flow in the rivers, lakes, and swamps, and prevent floods and droughts.

Note

- Date and time: July 8 (Sat.) 9:00-10:30
- Location: The Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Around Hlawga Lake located outside Yangon
- Participants: Approx. 1,200 (approx. 650 from Myanmar and approx. 550 from Japan)
- Number of trees: 13,000
- Species: Six types (Mahogany, Olive, Kaie, Teak, Monkey Pod, Golden Shower)
- Hosts: Union of Myanmar Yangon City Development Committee, AEON Environmental Foundation
- Cooperation: AEON Orange Co., Ltd., AEON MICROFINANCE (MYANMAR) Co., Ltd., AEON MALL Co., Ltd.
- Prospective attendees:

U Phyo Min Thein, Chief Minister of Yangon Regional Government
U Maung Maung Soe, Minister of Yangon Municipal, Mayor of Yangon City Development Committee
Ichirou Maruyama, Minister of the Embassy of Japan in Myanmar
Motoya Okada, Trustee of the AEON Environmental Foundation
(Group CEO, President of AEON Co., Ltd.)



Photos from tree planting in 2016
(10,000 trees planted)

Reference AEON's Environmental and Social Contribution Efforts in Myanmar

[AEON Environmental Foundation]

■Myanmar Yangon Tree Planting 2013 to 2015 – Pyugyi Reservoir

The AEON Environmental Foundation planted a total of 24,000 trees with 2,700 volunteers from Japan and Myanmar around the Pyugyi Reservoir located in the suburbs of Yangon, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, in order to help restore watershed conservation function to the reservoir.



2013



2014



2015

[AEON 1% Club Foundation]

■Donation of emergency relief funds and supplies for major cyclone damage in south-central Myanmar

In 2008, AEON 1% Club Foundation provided emergency support to victims of a large cyclone by donating to the Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Japan, and also delivered relief supplies such as mosquito nets to the affected region.

■School Construction Support

The Foundation has been supporting school construction in Myanmar since 2012. Donations from customers combined with donations from the Foundation are donated to Japan UNICEF. The Foundation has supported the construction of a total of 42 schools.



From 2016: New school building and exchange activities

■Teenage Ambassador Program

In 1990, the Foundation began holding international exchange programs for high school students, in order to support young people who will lead the next generation. This Teenage Ambassador Program enables students to learn about the diversity of values through exchange. In 2013, 20 high school students from Myanmar participated, carrying out international exchange activities with Japanese high school students. In 2017, high school students from Japan and Myanmar enjoyed getting to know each other through this program during the 8 days from February 6 to 13.

■ AEON UNICEF Safe Water Campaign

Since 2010, the Foundation has supported the installation of water facilities in towns and villages where children live in Myanmar in order to provide them with safe water. Donations gathered at approximately 7,000 AEON Group stores and offices are combined with AEON 1% Club funds which is the same amount as the donations gathered, and the funds donated through the purchase of AEON's private brand TOPVALU mineral water (5 yen per bottle). In Myanmar, by March 2017 approximately 29,000 people were given access to safe water.

■AEON Scholarship

AEON Scholarship Program provides support for Asian students and self-funded exchange students from Asia who are studying in Japan for their dreams to come true. Since 2014, support has been newly started for the Yangon Institute of Economics and the Yangon University of Foreign Languages. Up to now, 238 students from Myanmar have received the support.

■2015 Donation of Emergency Support for North-Central Flooding Damage

The Foundation supplied support for flooding damage caused by torrential rains, by donating to the Myanmar headquarters for disaster control. The donation was used to purchase food, daily necessities, and medicine.